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Dated: January 4, 2006

Signature:

Roger A. Heppermann

Docket No.: 29983/36943
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
A. D. Brown et al.

Application No.: 09/814,014

Filed: March 21, 2001

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR
EXCHANGING FERROUS, NON-FERROUS
AND PLATINUM GROUP METALS

Confirmation No.: 2987

Art Unit: 3621

Examiner: C. O. Sherr

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This paper is filed in response to the non-final Office Action dated July 5, 2005, for which the sixth-month statutory period for response is set to expire on January 5, 2005. This paper is filed with a petition for a three-month extension of time and the requisite fee therefor. Accordingly, this paper is timely filed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Listing of Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.